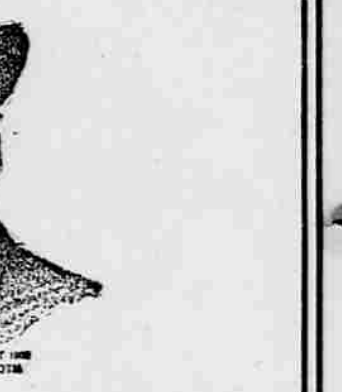


The Story of Spring The Styles That Well-Dressed Men Will Wear.



Egotism has no place in the thought which prompts us to state that in coming to us for your Spring Hat you'll obtain the fashions that are correct and the qualities the best that are made.

The leading high-grade makers have issued their styles for Spring—all are here, and many exclusive with us. Qualities that sell for \$5.00 at hat stores are \$3.50 here. \$1.90 is our price for qualities worth \$2.50.

Werner Bros.

The Republic Building,
On Olive Street, at Seventh.

Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

TO-DAY'S NEWS IN BRIEF.

BUSINESS.
Yesterday's bank clearings were \$154,168; balances \$354,822. Local discount rates were firm between 5 and 6 per cent. Domestic exchange was quoted as follows: New York 10c premium bid, 10c premium asked; Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville and New Orleans 10c discount bid, par asked.
Wheat closed lower at 60¢ 3/4c bid May, 71¢ 3/4c No. 2 red, corn closed lower at 40¢ asked May, 84¢ 3/4c No. 2 mixed, oats closed at 34¢ 3/4c No. 2, 34¢ 3/4c No. 2 Northern.
The local market for spot cotton was unchanged.

LOCAL AND SUBURBAN.
Mayor Wells will give a banquet in honor of President D. R. Francis of the World's Fair when the latter returns from Europe.
The body of Judge Thomas Metcalf, former law partner of Senator John J. Ingalls, will arrive tomorrow from San Antonio, Tex.
The annual report of the Merchants' Exchange shows a big increase in the volume of business transacted by St. Louis merchants.

Olive Cook Bentley filed a petition in the Circuit Court asking the annulment of her marriage to George Bentley.
Countess Spottswood-Mackin, who is widely known in Europe for her charity work, pays a brief visit to her old home in St. Louis, where her father was once Mayor.

Mrs. Lola A. Mear is suing the Transit Company for \$10,000 for the alleged loss of her voice.
Commercial bodies and citizens will visit the House of Delegates tonight and urge the passage of the street-railway bill.
President Ban Johnson announced the location of the new York Club grounds.

In a lecture under the auspices of the Society of Pedagogy at the High School the Reverend Doctor Hirsch declared that the Bible has no place in public schools.
Postmaster Baumhoff was at his desk again, after a trip to Washington in connection with the investigation of his office.
Records of Democratic nominees for the City Council show that the ticket measures up to the standard demanded of public officials.

W. A. Grunberger is seeking the man who secured a copy of his marriage certificate at Clayton.

The Salvation Army gave an ovation to Lieutenant Colonel Marshall, who returned from New York City, where he was promoted by General Booth.

Seven hundred head of stock were brought in from flooded country. The river at St. Louis fell almost a foot.

Mrs. Helen Hampton, a music teacher, charged Doctor T. M. Sayman with striking her. She hit his thumb. She is at the City Hospital, suffering from bruises.

GENERAL DOMESTIC.
Funeral services over the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pennell will be held at Buffalo to-day.

There is a complete revision of public opinion in the case of A. E. Batson, the Missouri boy who is on trial for his life at Lake Charles, La., and he now seems to have a brighter chance for his life than at any time since his arrest.

The Democrats join the Miller supporters in a fight in the Illinois House of Representatives. The University of Illinois is allowed \$15,000 for experimental purposes by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Edgar M. Sheehan of New York, in an address to university students, declares public opinion to be the greatest "world power."

Women take the place of nonunion employees in a strike of transfer company employees in Kansas City.

A brave engineer of Illinois Central fast mail saved scores of lives from death.

The pretty ward of a Missouri Sheriff, and the latter vainly searches for her.

Pennsylvania young woman puts assailant of young women to flight with her fists.

Methodists of Chicago will build \$100,000 "strangers' church and business building in heart of city.

King of Siam wants a copy of famous electric fountain owned by George Gould for official court.

The banquet at New York to President Francis upon his return to this country is expected enormous proportions. President Roosevelt and many men prominent in the nation's progress have been invited to welcome the World's Fair President. Former President Cleveland, John G. Carlisle and "Mark Twain" will be among those to speak.

"Checkers" made its initial appearance at Springfield, Ill., last night. In the language of the turf, "it won in a gallop."

Discord developed at the contest of the National Association of Dressmakers in New York. Some of the dressmakers did not approve the awarding of the prizes and many protests were heard.

FOREIGN.
The French Chamber of Deputies begins a debate on the subject of the Government's attitude toward religious orders.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.
Havre, March 12—Arrived: La Savole, from New York.

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DEMOCRATS WIN DECISIVE VICTORY

Cuban Reciprocity Treaty Will Not Become Effective Till Indorsed by the House.

AGREEMENT IN COMMITTEE.

Strength Shown by the Minority in the Senate Causes Consternation Among Administration Leaders.

Washington, March 12.—Democrats have drawn first blood in the extra session of the Senate through victory won today in the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations regarding the Cuban reciprocity treaty. The committee voted to report the treaty favorably, but not until an amendment had been adopted requiring concurrent action on the part of the House.

The members of the minority party have contended from the first that it was necessary for the two branches of Congress to act jointly on Cuban reciprocity by reason of the change in the revenue which is involved by the ratification of the convention. Inasmuch as the House will not meet until next December, the treaty cannot go into effect until after that time, even if there is no opposition to it in its present form.

The result of this action will be far-reaching. The Cuban treaty will be ratified eventually by the House, which needs only a majority vote, and not the two-thirds vote required by the Senate. But the more important result will be that when Congress meets again it is probable that the tariff question will be opened for prolonged debate. This is one of the objects of the Democrats in forcing the adoption of the amendment, and further, that they contend that, under the Constitution, the House must pass on revenue legislation.

AGREEMENT ON CANAL TREATY.
Vote Will Be Taken Tuesday and End of Session Is in Sight.

Washington, March 12.—There were important developments to-day regarding the treaties pending in the Senate. It was decided to vote on the Panama Canal treaty on Tuesday next and the Cuban reciprocity treaty was reported to the Senate by the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The end of the work for which the extra session was called is, therefore, in sight. The agreement to vote on the canal treaty was arrived at after the Senate adjourned at noon, and without discussion of moment.

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ALFRED BATSON CONVICTED OF MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE.

Missouri Boy Charged With Slaying Seven Members of the Earl Family Near Welsh, La., Must Pay the Death Penalty—Mother, Who Has Been Constantly at His Side During Both Trials, Faints When the Verdict Is Read and Is Taken From Courtroom on a Cot.



MRS. JOSEPH PAYNE.
Of Princeton, Mo., mother of Alfred Batson, who was convicted of murder at Lake Charles, La. When the verdict was read she fainted and was taken from the courtroom on a cot.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL.
Lake Charles, La., March 12.—At 3:30 o'clock to-night the jury in the case of Alfred E. Batson returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree, as charged. This carries the death penalty.

Batson's mother was seated at his side when the jury came in. When the verdict was read by the court neither mother nor son gave any sign of emotion. A few minutes afterward, however, Mrs. Payne was seen to quiver from head to toe. Then she sat upright, her chin in her hand, for about five minutes and suddenly fell back in her chair with a groan. Her face assumed a deathlike pallor, her arms became rigid and every one thought her dead.

Deputies went to her assistance, but her condemned son was the first to administer to the poor woman, his dearest friend. He opened her clothing at the throat and chafed her hands in an effort to revive her.

COT BROUGHT IN COURT.
A cot was brought into the courtroom and the woman placed upon it. Stimulants were administered and in a few minutes she revived. Her first words were: "Are we still in the courtroom?"

Then she called for her boy. He leaned over her and his lips met. She pressed him to her breast and wept aloud. The deputies called on Batson to go back to the jail and she walked with them not to separate her from him.

Batson heard the sentence read unmoved. However, when he took his mother in his arms she was unable to stand and fell with tears. He weakened only for a moment. Then, at the suggestion of the court, the case was removed to an ante-room, even as the deputy was putting the handcuffs on Batson. Then Batson gave way. He wept bitterly and his face assumed a deathlike pallor. He was taken back to the jail, surrounded by a squad of deputies, with a morbid throng following at their heels.

The State closed its case this morning shortly before noon. The defense then opened its case and put on three witnesses before dinner. In the afternoon Judge Fred W. Coon of Princeton, Mo., and one other juror were put on the stand, and the defense closed its case. This was a rather abrupt ending and proved a surprise to both Batson and his mother.

The arguments were begun shortly after 2 o'clock, and at 6 o'clock the case was submitted to the jury. Court then took a recess till 8:20, when the jury was brought in and the verdict rendered.

MURDER OF EARL FAMILY.
The crime for which Batson is on trial and for which he has once been sentenced to hang is the most heinous in the history of the State of Louisiana. On February 21, 1902, the world was startled with the intelligence that John H. Holmes, a prominent rice grower near Welsh, La., had been murdered, together with his wife and four sons—Ward, Ray, Lemuel and John.

Batson, who had been employed at the Earl place, was suspected of the crime. He was traced to Spickard, Mo., and on February 21 was arrested there. Sheriff John A. Perkins went with him to the Missouri town immediately. The Governor of Missouri would not permit Batson to be extradited, however, until he had received a personal assurance from Governor W. W. Heard of this State that Batson would be fully protected from violence and afforded a fair trial.

Batson was brought back to Louisiana, and through the strategy of Sheriff Perkins, safely landed in a steel cage in the Calcasieu Parish jail here. Much excitement prevailed, and for a while there was talk of storming the jail to lynch him, but the promise of the State's chief executive killed this idea, and Batson was unmolested. In due time he was indicted by the Grand Jury, and in April last was brought to trial, where a lot of incriminating evidence was brought out.

will get a fair trial, for the Governor of Louisiana has pledged him one.

Mrs. Payne brought down from Missouri Probate Judge Fred W. Coon, of Princeton, Mo., a former school teacher of Batson. He was seen by a representative of The Republic and expressed himself thus: "I have been brought down to Louisiana as a character witness for Ed Batson. I believe the boy is innocent of the crime which he is charged with, and try as I might, I cannot bring myself to believe that he could have done the deed. I taught him at school six years ago, while he was not conspicuously bright, he was a good scholar, and gave me but little trouble. He was a warm-hearted boy, and the last one to whom I would look for the attributes of a degenerate and a criminal."

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES PLANS FOR WESTERN TRIP.

To Leave April 1 and Spend Several Weeks in Yellowstone Park Before Going to St. Louis.

Washington, March 12.—President Roosevelt's contemplated Western trip was a subject of some discussion at the White House to-day. Senators Long of Kansas and Hopkins of Illinois and Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, also of Kansas, talked with the President about his tour.

The Kansas people are urging the President to make some stops in their State after the dedication of the World's Fair grounds at St. Louis on April 30.

Only one stop thus far has been arranged. The President has accepted an invitation to attend a meeting of the railway branch of the Y. M. C. A., to be held at Topeka, May 1. Few other details of the itinerary have been worked out.

It has been decided with practical definiteness that only one trip will be made. While no date for the beginning of the trip can be fixed definitely until the Senate shall have adjourned, it is expected now that it will be not far from April 1.

After leaving Washington the President will not return until some time in June. It is likely that the first two or three weeks of the trip will be passed principally in the Yellowstone Park. There the President will seek rest and recreation, but it is understood that he will do little hunting.

WOMAN MUSIC TEACHER BITES PHYSICIAN'S THUMB.

Mrs. Helen Hampton, Who Says Doctor T. M. Sayman Struck Her, Is Sent to City Hospital.

Mrs. Helen Hampton, a music teacher, living at No. 3666 Finney, was carried to the City Hospital last night suffering from injuries received, she says, in a fight with Doctor T. M. Sayman, proprietor of a soap factory at No. 212 Franklin avenue.

Doctor Sayman told the police that Mrs. Hampton bit him on the right thumb.

According to Mrs. Hampton, she was employed by Doctor Sayman, as a companion for his children until about a month ago. Yesterday afternoon she called at his house to secure a letter which had been delivered there for her.

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The police say Mrs. Gertrude Sayman, daughter of late doctor and Mrs. M. C. Coyle of No. 128 Elliot avenue were present during the trouble. Doctor Sayman refused to discuss the trouble. According to the police version of the affair, Mrs. Hampton was being forced from the house when she received her injuries.

Mrs. Hampton is a widow, 50 years old. She says she came to St. Louis from Kansas City last October. She formerly lived on 14th and Olive streets.

TELEGRAPH NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD.

SPOKANE, WASH.—More than forty labor unions are voting on a proposition to join in a sympathetic strike on March 22. The carrying out of the proposition will throw out of employment between 4,000 and 5,000 men.

KASOTA, MINN.—The safe in the State Bank of Kasota was blown by two men and \$40 in silver taken. The robbers escaped on a handcar on the Omaha road.

TOLEDO, O.—Frank E. Brady, former secretary of the Imperial Building and Loan company, was sentenced to five years in the Penitentiary for stealing the company's books to deceive creditors.

CHICAGO—Mabel Green, aged 27, whose home is believed to be at Lacon, Ill., committed suicide by inhaling gas. Miss Green had been employed as a stenographer at the University of Chicago. A broken engagement, it is believed, led to the suicide.

CHICAGO—The strike of the sheet metal workers was indorsed by the Advisory Board of the Building Trades Council. This, it is said, means a general strike, including members of thirty building crafts.

SEWER DISTURBS OLD GRAVE.
Human Bones Found in Excavating Near Old Roadhouse.

Two human skeletons were unearthed yesterday morning at Arkansas avenue and Polio street by John Butake of No. 137 South Third street and Michael Skelington of No. 24 Walnut street, who were excavating for a sewer.

The skeletons were removed to the morgue, where Superintendent Cowie gave it as his opinion that one was that of a woman and the other of a man.

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Burlington Route THE GREAT NORTHWEST.

An army of colonists will invade the Northwest country during the spring of 1903. Its make-up will be farmers, fruit growers, stock raisers, miners, lumbermen, traders, skilled and unskilled labor, technical, scientific and professional men.

This country offers a field for all classes, and is holding its new settlers. A great commonwealth is building contiguous to the Puget Sound.

LOW RATES UNTIL APRIL 30th, 1903.

The Burlington reaches the Northwest with a daily through train to Seattle; with three daily trains to St. Paul; with two daily trains to Denver.

Information, tickets, etc., at City Ticket Office, 8 W. corner Broadway and Olive St., or of General Passenger Agent, 604 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.

known as the Washington House. James Edie, No. 3426 Grace avenue, who has lived in that vicinity for many years, substantiates the statement of Wolfe and has informed Policeman Walton that the Washington House was conducted by a man named Sam Brown. He declared that Brown was once a policeman.

Whether the bones are the first evidence of a long-continued crime, the police will endeavor to ascertain. Records will be searched and old citizens interviewed to learn if they have any knowledge of the reported missing at the time the Washington House was open.

Eddie declares that Sam Brown was on the police force when King Edward, then Prince of Wales, visited the United States and was entertained in St. Louis.

AFFAIRS OF THE POST OFFICE KEEP BAUMHOFF BUSY NOW.

Returns From Washington With \$120,000 Appropriation and Permission for 700 Promotions.

Postmaster Baumhoff was at his desk yesterday morning, after a trip to Washington, where he went to confer with the Postmaster General in regard to the recent investigation of the Post Office.

About his new case, the Postmaster was noncommunicative, however, and refused to deny or affirm the report from Washington that several heads of departments who had been overzealous about pushing the charges against him were to be cut out in the near future.

In announcing that he had an appropriation of \$120,000 to be used in enlarging salaries of employees and to establish postal stations in various parts of the city, where the delivery heretofore has been inadequate, he evidenced a happy frame of mind and the best evidence of his being in the Tower Grove and Manchester avenues for the accommodation of the business interests of the southwestern part of the city, which have been complaining of poor service for some time past. Besides, ten other branch stations are to be established in drug stores and various other places in other parts of town.

Mr. Baumhoff also announced an increase in the stamp-selling business of his department.

SEEKS MAN WHO SECURED RECORD OF HIS MARRIAGE.

Grunberger Thinks Visitor May Have Been Father, Whose Address He Does Not Know.

W. A. Grunberger, a traveling salesman, living at No. 425 Easton avenue, is trying to ascertain the identity of an elderly man who visited the Clayton marriage license office Wednesday afternoon to get a copy of his (Grunberger's) marriage certificate.

Grunberger was married November 26, 1885, to Miss Mary Bardell. On account of difference in religion, his father strenuously opposed the match and they went to Clayton, where they were married by Justice of the Peace William C. Wenger. Grunberger said last night that his father had not spoken to him since that day.

"My father is a heavy set man, about 5 feet 8 inches in height," he said, "has a full face and a heavy gray mustache. He is about 60 years of age. I do not know where he is living. It may be that he intends to leave me some life insurance. Still, I am not sure, but will watch for developments."

Gray hair, thin hair, short hair. Hair poverty, pride poverty, style poverty. Look old at forty.

Dark hair, heavy hair, long hair. Hair riches, hair pride, hair style. Look young at sixty.

(The difference?)

Ayer's Hair Vigor

A genuine hair food. Stops falling of the hair, makes the hair grow, and always restores color. \$1. All druggists. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

"My hair was very short before I used Ayer's Hair Vigor. It is now four inches below my waist, and I know its growth is due to your Vigor." Mrs. Ed. Masure, Midway, Kans.